

For Immediate Release

Correctional Facility Adds Jobs, Enhances Perimeter

Madison, Indiana – (November 18, 2008) – On any given day joggers, bicyclists, parents with children in strollers, people walking their dogs and heritage trail hikers enjoy the walk around the Outer Loop Drive that surrounds the Madison Correctional Facility and the Madison State Hospital. This loop is a favorite of many in Madison with its beautiful grounds, majestic trees and breathtaking views of the Ohio River. Often times, people unknowingly journey off of the outer loop and find themselves walking through the middle of the correctional facility. The facility has made several efforts to reduce this type of traffic through the facility by increasing signage, adding a landscape berm and sections of wrought-iron fencing around the perimeter. Still people often venture unknowingly into the middle of the correctional facility while leaving their vehicles unlocked.

Acknowledging that the outer loop is an asset to the community, the correctional facility does not want to hinder tourists and Madison's residents' enjoyment of the state grounds. For this and capacity reasons, the Madison Correctional Facility will be erecting a fence around its perimeter. Fence construction is expected to begin within the next week.

Along with the fence will come additional jobs. The total number of jobs to be added is still to be determined, but the increase could be significant. As many as fifty or more positions could be added by the start of 2009 with even more in the following months.

"The exact number of new positions to be added is still being finalized," commented Superintendent Jan Davis. "I am expecting a large number of entry level custody officer positions plus program and treatment staff positions along with some opportunities for promotion for our existing staff."

All State of Indiana job openings are posted on the state job bank and must be applied for over the internet. The location for these positions can be found at www.jobs.in.gov. Applicants can also apply at Work One locations. Additional announcements will be made when these positions become available.

Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Edwin Buss stated, "I know that the residents of Madison have always been supportive and have embraced us for

the work we do in the community and for the jobs that we bring to the area. It is our expectation that this positive relationship will continue to grow. We are excited about bringing so many new jobs to Madison in a time that many communities are experiencing severe job losses,” concluded Buss.

In addition to adding the fencing and new jobs, the facility’s capacity will be increased over time and offenders with longer sentences will also begin to be accepted.

In meetings held last week between Mayor Tim Armstrong and Superintendent Davis, the fence was discussed in addition to the new jobs being brought into our community. “I support this decision by the Indiana Department of Correction and the Madison Correctional Facility,” stated Mayor Armstrong. “The facility continues to be an asset to our community and our city. The additional jobs are truly needed in this area. I am pleased that the area outside of the facility’s boundary will still be accessible to the public,” Armstrong concluded.

“This won’t change our offenders working in the community,” stated Superintendent Jan Davis. “Our crews will still be out cleaning the streets, parks and working for other area agencies.”

The facility staff were notified on Friday and notices went out to members of the facility’s Community Advisory Board plus other community partners today. “Everyone’s support of this project has been fantastic,” concluded Superintendent Davis.

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